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**Assemblyman George H. Winner, Jr.  
Minority Leader Pro Tempore  
New York State Assembly**

# Fax

To: Renata B. Hesse From: George H. Winner, Jr.  
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**●Comments:**

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GEORGE H. WINNER, JR.  
Assemblyman 127th District

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

MINORITY LEADER PRO TEMPORE

COMMITTEES  
Rules  
Ways and Means

January 23, 2002

Renata B. Hesse  
Antitrust Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
601 D Street NW  
Suite 1200  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Ms. Hesse:

When word of a possible settlement in the Microsoft case broke, the markets surged. In spite of gloomy economic reports, the news was viewed by investors as a sign that our nation's critically important high-tech industry could move forward without the continuing shadow of government interference.

The proposed settlement requires significant changes in the way Microsoft develops, licenses and markets its software. This settlement is fair. It prevents Microsoft from abusing the strength that it derives from its operating system, but also allows the company to continue innovating in all areas of software development.

I congratulate you on reaching a fair settlement that will serve in our nation's best interest. It will be very difficult for anyone to reject a settlement that benefits consumers, the technology industry, and the economy as a whole.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Winner", written over a horizontal line.

George H. Winner, Jr.  
Minority Leader Pro Tempore